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12/2/75

Imm  
PRECEDENCE

Unclass  
CLASSIFICATION

FOR COMMCENTER USE ONLY

FROM: James E. Connor  
TO: Dick Cheney  
(Peking)

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PAGES 9

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SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

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1975 DEC 2 23 50

No discussion ever received

file Dec 2, 1975

**THE WHITE HOUSE**

WASHINGTON

December 2, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: DICK CHENEY

FROM: JIM CONNOR

SUBJECT: Photo 200 --- A Proposal for a  
Photographic Program to Depict the  
Nation in its 200th Year

You might note that Jim Cavanaugh is greatly concerned that in the context of the tight budget the President would be subject to a lot of criticism for spending \$2 million on this.

I understand Jim Lynn is familiar with this issue.



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

December 2, 1975

ACTION

MEMORANDUM FOR:

THE PRESIDENT

FROM:

Paul H. O'Neill

SUBJECT:

Photo-200 -- A Proposal for a  
Photographic Program to Depict  
the Nation in its 200th Year

Background

In a recent letter to you, Senator Baker has suggested that you formally endorse Photo-200, as a means of helping secure the necessary funding for this activity. This project would support photographic activities designed to produce a "portrait" of our country in 1976. It would cost \$2.4 million.

This proposal has been developed this year and has enlisted the support of some of the major photo journalists in the nation. The National Endowment for the Arts advises that they provided an initial small grant some time ago for this project. However, they indicate they have not received a formal application for the proposal and do not foresee funding being provided for it within its current list of priorities. However, in a letter to Senator Baker, Nancy Hanks indicated that they would provide support for Photo-200, if the Congress provided a supplemental for this project and ... "if the President agreed ..." We were not made aware of the Endowment's position on a supplemental until after the letter had been transmitted.

Discussion

Arguments in favor of an endorsement:

- A project such as this, given the high caliber of skills involved in the initial planning, could yield a product of some historic importance.

Arguments in opposition to an endorsement:

- An endorsement, without qualification, would be fairly interpreted by Senator Baker as an agreement to accept added funding for the National Arts Endowment for this specific purpose. This would be an unfortunate, high visibility add on at a time when we are seeking to restrain growth in Federal spending.

Alternative:

Indicate to Senator Baker that the idea of a photographic history of the bicentennial is appealing but that you cannot support additional appropriations for this purpose.

Decision

- \_\_\_\_\_ Approve endorsement.  
\_\_\_\_\_ Disapprove endorsement.  
\_\_\_\_\_ OMB alternative.

# PARADE

JESS GORKIN  
Editor

Parade Publications, Inc. + 212 953-7500  
733 Third Avenue, New York, New York 10017  
Writer's Direct Dial No. 953 7555

November 24, 1975

Mr. Ron Nessen  
White House  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Ron:

Thank you for agreeing to show the enclosed material on the Photo/200 Project to the President.

Briefly, the President liked the idea proposed in the March 2, 1975 Open Letter that called for a photo documentary report on the Bicentennial Year. He asked David Kennerly to help implement this idea. About a dozen of us from the Government and the private sector met in the White House a number of times with Kennerly and this resulted in a permanent committee, a director for the project, and the formation of a non-profit organization. All the photos taken for this project will finally be housed in the Library of Congress.

Parade received tens of thousands of letters in favor of this project, the Congress favors it and at this point what is needed is a nod of approval from the President. I think that the simplest, most effective way for the President to express his approval would be for him to agree to either points 4 or 5 in the excerpt from the enclosed memorandum.

As I said to you on the phone, Parade will run

several follow-up stories in which we will  
give full credit to the President for his  
support in implementing the project.

Sincerely,

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Jess Gorkin

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The index also shows that one Comsat employee serves on fifteen advisory committees, one Federal Aviation Administration employee serves on ten, and one from the Federal Communications Commission serves on nine.

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### NATIONAL BICENTENNIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

Mr. BAKER. Mr. President, we are now in the midst of planning for the 1976 Bicentennial, and numerous projects at the Federal, State, and local levels have been proposed to celebrate the strength and diversity which has characterized our first 200 years as a nation. In this regard, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues in the Senate a proposed Bicentennial photography project which has been developed by photographic experts inside and outside of Government and which has now been suggested as an undertaking of the National Endowment for the Arts.

The Bicentennial photographic project has been designed as a comprehensive photographic survey of the United States utilizing the talents of some of our best photographers. The permanent record of photographs will be easily accessible, through the television, film, and print media, as well as potential regional exhibitions, to all parts of the Nation.

project at a level of \$2.4 million can be included in the National Endowment for the Arts appropriation soon to be considered by the Senate Appropriations Committee so that this effort, which I consider to be one of the most worthwhile and lasting contributions which we could make to the Bicentennial celebration, can get underway as soon as possible.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that a summary of the background and goals of the Bicentennial photographic project be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the summary was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF NATIONAL BICENTENNIAL PHOTOGRAPHY PROJECT

A photographic survey to record with clarity and respect the character of our American life: this would be one of the most valuable contributions of the Bicentennial celebrations to present and future Americans. We are besieged with mass produced images in television, film and publications, but the daily lives of few Americans are recorded for themselves and posterity. Our diversity is collapsed into glimpses of the famous and the infamous. The mass media covers regularly only six of our fifty states—the others are ignored until they are convulsed by "newsworthy" catastrophes. We need today a portrait of all of American undertaken with the same thoroughness and brilliance which characterized the Farm Security Administration's famed efforts of the 1930's.

On March 2, 1975, an editorial in Parade magazine suggested to President Ford that he consider such a photographic documentation of the nation. A committee of photographic experts and representatives from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, the Library of Congress and the White House subsequently established the guidelines for such a national self-portrait. The NEA provided an initial small grant for the development of the project proposal. All agreed that the goal of a Bicentennial photography project is to capture and illuminate the American experience and to preserve for future generations a vision of the American people as we were in our 200th year.

A photographic survey of the United States cannot be a random collection of pictures, nor should funds be wasted in endless duplication. The project must be nationally coordinated and supervised by a skillful and respected person from the photographic field. PHOTO-200, a non-profit self-liquidating organization, was established for the sole purpose of directing the most important photographic study of the nation ever undertaken. Ken Heyman, one of the country's best photographers, whose credits include books with Dr. Margaret Mead and former President Lyndon B. Johnson, has been chosen to give PHOTO-200 the judicious and imaginative leadership required.

PHOTO-200 will invite the nation's photographers to submit representative portfolios. From these, as many as two hundred of the most gifted and perceptive photographers will be selected by a board of experts and assigned to undertake a journey as "visual historians" to capture the mood and substance of America. At least two or more photographers will be working in each of the fifty states. The dialogue between the director of PHOTO-200 and the photographers will yield a coherent and detailed portrait of America from Alaska to Florida, from our offices, homes, farms and schools to our supermarkets, street corners and parks.

When the Bicentennial is over this photo-

statement about 1976. From the thousands of photographs taken, one hundred from each photographer will be selected, archivally printed and stored with the Library of Congress as an invaluable artistic and historical resource. In addition, PHOTO-200 will organize numerous traveling exhibitions of the collection that will reach all parts of the country, not just its major centers. To bring the portrait of America into as many homes and offices as possible, the collection will be reproduced in hardcover and paperback books.

The study of America by PHOTO-200's photographers will be the most significant such collection ever assembled. It will reveal and reaffirm our American identity, and it will offer an accurate and insightful vision of the American people to future generations, showing them who we were and what we stood for in 1976.

### BANGLADESH

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, last week, a group of Bangladesh Army personnel—who were involved in the assassination of the late President of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and others—arrived in Bangkok from Dacca, and through the American Embassy requested asylum in the United States. Earlier today, the Department of State informed me that a formal request for asylum, under the Attorney General's parole authority in section 212(d) (5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, is being actively considered, and that a decision will be made within the near future.

In this connection, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the statement I made on November 7 and a letter to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, both of which comment on recent developments in Bangladesh and strongly recommend that the pending request for asylum by the group of Bangladesh Army personnel be denied.

There being no objection, the statement and letter were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

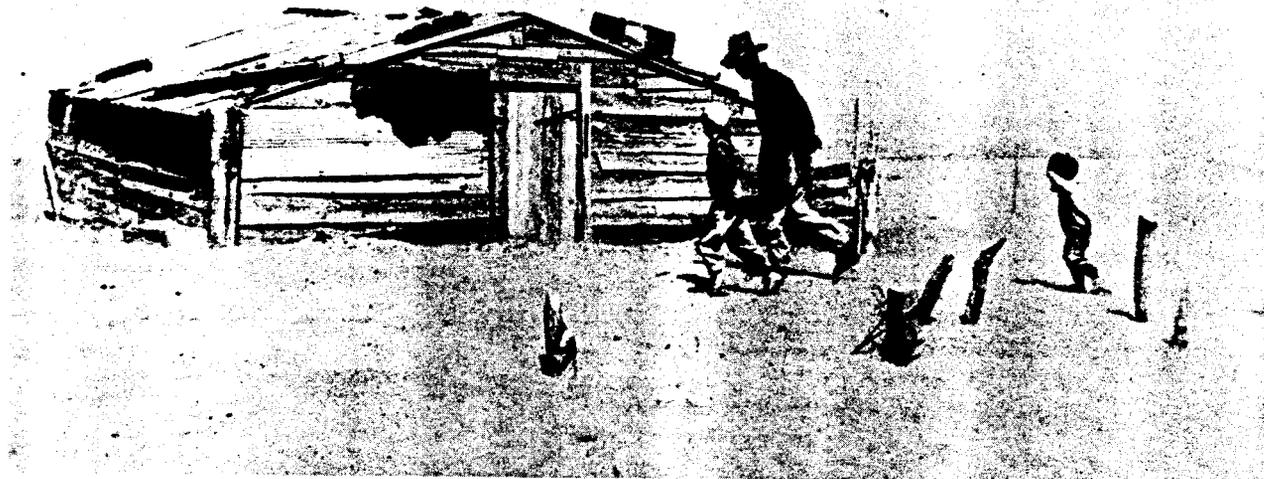
#### SENATOR KENNEDY'S STATEMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN BANGLADESH

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am deeply concerned that the Department of State has under active consideration a request for asylum and admission into the United States of a group of Bangladesh Army officers involved in the assassination of the late President of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

As one who has closely followed developments in Bangladesh, I have personally deplored the senseless killing of Sheikh Mujib and his family last August. And the further bloodshed in recent days, which has brought death to many leaders of the Bangladesh independence movement, is added cause for concern over the future of that new country. These lawless acts have set in motion a tragic series of events which not only threaten the political and social fabric of Bangladesh, but the peace and stability of the entire area.

Since the costly civil war and the anguished birth of Bangladesh in 1971, the people of this beleaguered nation have suffered a series of natural disasters—floods, typhoons, droughts, and crop-failure—which have brought famine conditions to many areas, and starvation and death to many thousands.

But the man-made disaster which threatens Bangladesh today is unleashing destruc-



A classic photo of 1936 Oklahoma dust storm taken by Arthur Rothstein, now Parade's photo editor. The picture is part of the great Farm Security

Administration project that documented American life during the 1930's. Parade urges the U.S. to undertake a similar project for our Bicentennial.

## *A Suggestion for the Bicentennial*

# *An Open Letter To President Ford*

*Dear Mr. President:*

As the nation's Bicentennial celebration gets underway, Parade would like to offer a suggestion that we believe will make the forthcoming observances even more meaningful to our people—not only of this generation, but of those still to come.

After two centuries of existence, the United States has achieved a way of life like none that has existed before. It is reflected in our great cities and rich farmlands, our busy scientific complexes and cultural centers, our manifold financial, commercial, and athletic activities, our enduring social, religious and educational institutions.

Parade would like to see this immensely varied and vibrant life of America in the mid-1970's preserved and documented for all time

through the art of photography. We would like to see the Government of the United States, as one of its major Bicentennial undertakings, compile a photographic record of America today.



Precedents exist for this kind of thorough photographic documentary, starting with the work of Mathew Brady, whose battlefield pictures constitute a graphic record of the Civil War. An even more striking example is the great photographic project undertaken by the Farm Security Administration in the 1930's which compiled a vast photo documentary of this country's rural and small-town life—a powerful social document of 70,000 photographs that is still maintained in the Library of Congress.

In like manner, we think a photographic record of America today in all its aspects—its shadows as well as its highlights, its problems as well as its achievements—will serve to give our people a comprehensive picture of what America is all about, what it has done, and what remains to be done. For future generations, documentary photographs of how America lived, worked, played during its Bicentennial observance (March 1, 1975, to Dec. 31, 1976) will constitute a unique chronicle.

Parade itself would be honored to publish a selection of the photos, bringing them to the attention of our 36 million readers. The entire set of photographs would appropriately be on file, perhaps at the Library of Congress, for current and future generations.

Mr. President, we believe the project we propose would be one of the most useful, exciting and lasting contributions your Administration can make to the great national celebration. We, therefore, urge that you select a federal agency to organize this historical project and begin work on "A Portrait of American Life—1976." Such a project can be, for us and for those who come after us, a record of our accomplishments, an expression of our hopes, and a reaffirmation of our faith in these United States.

*Respectfully,*

JESS GORKIN, EDITOR

November 5, 1975

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

As you will recall, you expressed an interest early this year in the development of a Bicentennial Photographic Project which would compile a photographic portrait of the Nation in its 200th year through the work of some of our finest photographers.

Early meetings held at The White House, chaired by David Kennerly, and attended by representatives of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, the Library of Congress and photographic experts, have now yielded a concrete proposal which would allow for completion of the project, at a budget of \$2.4 million, under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Arts.

I have been impressed with the thorough planning which has gone into the project, as well as with the high level of expertise evidenced in its developers and staff, and I strongly support the appropriation of funds to begin the photographic survey as soon as possible. Toward that end, I and others interested in the project have suggested that the Senate Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations consider including the necessary funds under the National Endowment for the Arts appropriation when it begins mark-up of the Interior Department Appropriations Bill next week.

Your expression of continued interest in and support for undertaking a photographic documentation of the Nation as a part of our Bicentennial celebration would, of course, be most helpful in our efforts to obtain the necessary funding at the earliest possible time. I would very much appreciate any assistance which you could provide in this effort.

Yours very truly,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.

HNB Jr:gh

November 5, 1975

Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As the Subcommittee moves toward mark-up of H. R. 8773, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I would like to express my support for inclusion of funds to accomplish, under the National Endowment for the Arts, a comprehensive photographic survey of the United States as a part of our Bicentennial celebration.

As you may be aware, such a project was suggested in a Parade Magazine Editorial in March of this year. Since that time, a group of professional photographers and photographic experts, including representatives of the National Endowment and the White House, has organized and developed a proposal for the project which, at a budget of \$2.4 million, will provide for the completion of a photographic portrait of the fifty states by some of the nation's finest photographers.

I have enclosed a brief description of the project, as well as a copy of the proposed budget. The nature of the project seems well suited to the National Endowment for the Arts, and it is my understanding that the Endowment is enthusiastic about undertaking it. Due to the limited time remaining before the full rush of Bicentennial activities is upon us, it is my feeling that the Congress should act as swiftly as possible to provide funds so that the project can begin.

I hope you will agree that the project offers us a unique opportunity to record the mood and spirit of America on our 200th anniversary at a relatively low cost. The permanent record of photographs will provide a valuable insight for future generations of Americans, and it will be easily accessible, through the television, film, and print media, as well as potential regional exhibitions, to all parts of the nation.

I will be most appreciative of your consideration of funding for a Bicentennial Photographic Project, and I will be pleased to discuss it with you and provide further information about it if you should so desire in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.

HHBJr:gh  
Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

December 3, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: JIM CONNOR  
FROM: MAX FRIEDERSDORF *MF*  
SUBJECT: O'Neill Memo to President of 12/2 re Photo-200  
proposal for a photographic program to depict  
the nation in its 200th year.

The Office of Legislative Affairs approves endorsement of subject program.

URGENT

December 1, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: PAUL O'NEILL  
FROM: JIM CONNOR

Paul, on the attached, Cheney has asked that we dex a decision memo to the President on whether we should go ahead on this project which Kennerly is pushing. Apparently Kennerly has gotten to the President on it, and Dick needs to have something to show to the President. Milt Mitler says that on November 18th he sent a memo to Kranowitz with all the back-up and one to Wolthius on same date, but has never gotten anything back. Can you have someone in your shop pull it together so we can get to Cheney with something that makes sense?

This is being dictated by phone since I am in Pennsylvania today, but I am available by phone if you need to talk with me. Thanks.

*Je: O'Neill had a paper but want to send it at what time maybe you can get from him in the morning. This is bringing a mixed up mess. A good one. 7:45 pm. E. 12/1*

THE WHITE HOUSE

ACTION MEMORANDUM

WASHINGTON

LOG NO.:

Date: December 2, 1975

Time:

FOR ACTION:

cc (for information):

✓ JIM CAVANAUGH  
MAX FRIEDERSDORF

FROM THE STAFF SECRETARY

DUE: Date: Tuesday, December 2, 1975

Time: 6:00 PM

SUBJECT:

O'Neill Memo to President of 12/2 re Photo-200 - proposal  
for a photographic program to depict the nation in its 200th year

ACTION REQUESTED:

\_\_\_ For Necessary Action

For Your Recommendations

\_\_\_ Prepare Agenda and Brief

\_\_\_ Draft Reply

For Your Comments

\_\_\_ Draft Remarks

REMARKS:

We need your comments by 6:00 PM TODAY SO THIS CAN  
BE DEXEⓄ TO DICK CHENEY IN CHINA AT CHENEY'S REQUEST

*Cavanaugh -*

PLEASE ATTACH THIS COPY TO MATERIAL SUBMITTED.

If you have any questions or if you anticipate a  
delay in submitting the required material, please  
telephone the Staff Secretary immediately.

\_\_\_\_\_  
K. R. COLE, JR.  
For the President  
For the President

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Jim Cavanaugh

JNC  
CV

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James E. Connor  
For the President



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

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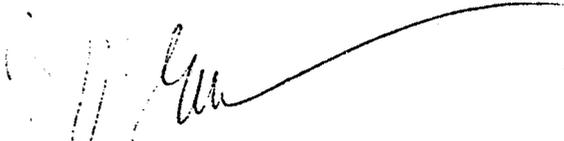
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A photographic survey to record with clarity and respect the character of our American life: this would be one of the most valuable contributions of the Bicentennial celebrations to present and future Americans. We are besieged with mass produced images in television, film and publications, but the daily lives of few Americans are recorded for themselves and posterity. Our diversity is collapsed into glimpses of the famous and the infamous. The mass media covers regularly only six of our fifty states—the others are ignored until they are convulsed by "newsworthy" catastrophes. We need today a portrait of all of American undertaken with the same thoroughness and brilliance which characterized the Farm Security Administration's famed efforts of the 1930's.

On March 2, 1975, an editorial in Parade magazine suggested to President Ford that he consider such a photographic documentation of the nation. A committee of photographic experts and representatives from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture, the Library of Congress and the White House subsequently established the guidelines for such a national self-portrait. The NEA provided an initial small grant for the development of the project proposal. All agreed that the goal of a Bicentennial photography project is to capture and illuminate the American experience and to preserve for future generations a vision of the American people as we were in our 200th year.

A photographic survey of the United States cannot be a random collection of pictures, nor should funds be wasted in endless duplication. The project must be nationally coordinated and supervised by a skillful and respected person from the photographic field. PHOTO-200, a non-profit self-liquidating organization, was established for the sole purpose of directing the most important photographic study of the nation ever undertaken. Ken Heyman, one of the country's best photographers, whose credits include books with Dr. Margaret Mead and former President Lyndon B. Johnson, has been chosen to give PHOTO-200 the judicious and imaginative leadership required.

PHOTO-200 will invite the nation's photographers to submit representative portfolios. From these, as many as two hundred of the most gifted and perceptive photographers will be selected by a board of experts and assigned to undertake a journey as "visual historians" to capture the mood and substance of America. At least two or more photographers will be working in each of the fifty states. The dialogue between the director of PHOTO-200 and the photographers will yield a coherent and detailed portrait of America from Alaska to Florida, from our offices, homes, farms and schools to our supermarkets, street corners and parks.

When the Bicentennial is over this photo-

graphical project about 1976. From the thousands of photographs taken, one hundred from each photographer will be selected, archivally printed and stored with the Library of Congress as an invaluable artistic and historical resource. In addition, PHOTO-200 will organize numerous travelling exhibitions of the collection that will reach all parts of the country, not just its major centers. To bring the portrait of America into as many homes and offices as possible, the collection will be reproduced in hardcover and paperback books.

The study of America by PHOTO-200's photographers will be the most significant such collection ever assembled. It will reveal and reaffirm our American identity, and it will offer an accurate and insightful vision of the American people to future generations, showing them who we were and what we stood for in 1976.

### BANGLADESH

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, last week, a group of Bangladesh Army personnel—who were involved in the assassination of the late President of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and others—arrived in Bangkok from Dacca, and through the American Embassy requested asylum in the United States. Earlier today, the Department of State informed me that a formal request for asylum, under the Attorney General's parole authority in section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality Act, is being actively considered, and that a decision will be made within the near future.

In this connection, Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD the statement I made on November 7 and a letter to Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger, both of which comment on recent developments in Bangladesh and strongly recommend that the pending request for asylum by the group of Bangladesh Army personnel be denied.

There being no objection, the statement and letter were ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

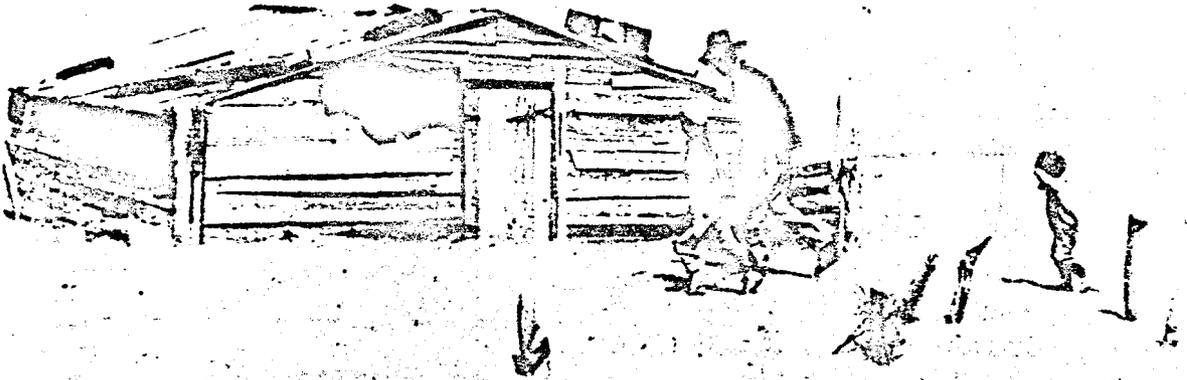
#### SENATOR KENNEDY'S STATEMENT ON DEVELOPMENTS IN BANGLADESH

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. President, I am deeply concerned that the Department of State has under active consideration a request for asylum and admission into the United States of a group of Bangladesh Army officers involved in the assassination of the late President of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

As one who has closely followed developments in Bangladesh, I have personally deplored the senseless killing of Sheikh Mujib and his family last August. And the further bloodshed in recent days, which has brought death to many leaders of the Bangladesh independence movement, is added cause for concern over the future of that new country. These lawless acts have set in motion a tragic series of events which not only threaten the political and social fabric of Bangladesh, but the peace and stability of the entire area.

Since the costly civil war and the anguished birth of Bangladesh in 1971, the people of this beleaguered nation have suffered a series of natural disasters—floods, typhoons, droughts, and crop-failure—which have brought famine conditions to many areas, and starvation and death to many thousands.

But the man-made disaster which threatens Bangladesh today is unleashing destruc-



A classic photo of 1936 Oklahoma dust storm taken by Arthur Rothstein, now Parade's photo editor. The picture is part of the great Farm Security

Administration project that documented American life during the 1930's. Parade urges the U.S. to undertake a similar project for our Bicentennial.

## *A Suggestion for the Bicentennial*

# *An Open Letter To President Ford*

*Dear Mr. President:*

As the nation's Bicentennial celebration gets underway, Parade would like to offer a suggestion that we believe will make the forthcoming observances even more meaningful to our people—not only of this generation, but of those still to come.

After two centuries of existence, the United States has achieved a way of life like none that has existed before. It is reflected in our great cities and rich farmlands, our busy scientific complexes and cultural centers, our manifold financial, commercial, and athletic activities, our enduring social, religious and educational institutions.

Parade would like to see this immensely varied and vibrant life of America in the mid-1970's preserved and documented for all time

through the art of photography. We would like to see the Government of the United States, as one of its major Bicentennial undertakings, compile a photographic record of America today.



Precedents exist for this kind of thorough photographic documentary, starting with the work of Mathew Brady, whose battlefield pictures constitute a graphic record of the Civil War. An even more striking example is the great photographic project undertaken by the Farm Security Administration in the 1930's which compiled a vast photo documentary of this country's rural and small-town life—a powerful social document of 70,000 photographs that is still maintained in the Library of Congress.

In like manner, we think a photographic record of America today in all its aspects—its shadows as well as its highlights, its problems as well as its achievements—will serve to give our people a comprehensive picture of what America is all about, what it has done, and what remains to be done. For future generations, documentary photographs of how America lived, worked, played during its Bicentennial observance (March 1, 1975, to Dec. 31, 1976) will constitute a unique chronicle.

Parade itself would be honored to publish a selection of the photos, bringing them to the attention of our 36 million readers. The entire set of photographs would appropriately be on file, perhaps at the Library of Congress, for current and future generations.

Mr. President, we believe the project we propose would be one of the most useful, exciting and lasting contributions your Administration can make to the great national celebration. We, therefore, urge that you select a federal agency to organize this historical project and begin work on "A Portrait of American Life—1976." Such a project can be, for us and for those who come after us, a record of our accomplishments, an expression of our hopes, and a reaffirmation of our faith in these United States.

*Respectfully,*

JESS GORKIN, EDITOR

November 5, 1975

The President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

As you will recall, you expressed an interest early this year in the development of a Bicentennial Photographic Project which would compile a photographic portrait of the Nation in its 200th year through the work of some of our finest photographers.

Early meetings held at The White House, chaired by David Kennerly, and attended by representatives of the National Endowment for the Arts, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior, the Library of Congress and photographic experts, have now yielded a concrete proposal which would allow for completion of the project, at a budget of \$2.4 million, under the auspices of the National Endowment for the Arts.

I have been impressed with the thorough planning which has gone into the project, as well as with the high level of expertise evidenced in its developers and staff, and I strongly support the appropriation of funds to begin the photographic survey as soon as possible. Toward that end, I and others interested in the project have suggested that the Senate Subcommittee on Interior Appropriations consider including the necessary funds under the National Endowment for the Arts appropriation when it begins mark-up of the Interior Department Appropriations Bill next week.

Your expression of continued interest in and support for undertaking a photographic documentation of the Nation as a part of our Bicentennial celebration would, of course, be most helpful in our efforts to obtain the necessary funding at the earliest possible time. I would very much appreciate any assistance which you could provide in this effort.

Yours very truly,

Howard H. Baker, Jr.

HNB Jr:gh

Honorable Robert C. Byrd, Chairman  
Subcommittee on Interior  
Committee on Appropriations  
United States Senate  
Washington, D. C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

As the Subcommittee moves toward mark-up of H. R. 8773, the Department of the Interior and Related Agencies Appropriations Bill, I would like to express my support for inclusion of funds to accomplish, under the National Endowment for the Arts, a comprehensive photographic survey of the United States as a part of our Bicentennial celebration.

As you may be aware, such a project was suggested in a Parade Magazine Editorial in March of this year. Since that time, a group of professional photographers and photographic experts, including representatives of the National Endowment and the White House, has organized and developed a proposal for the project which, at a budget of \$2.4 million, will provide for the completion of a photographic portrait of the fifty states by some of the nation's finest photographers.

I have enclosed a brief description of the project, as well as a copy of the proposed budget. The nature of the project seems well suited to the National Endowment for the Arts, and it is my understanding that the Endowment is enthusiastic about undertaking it. Due to the limited time remaining before the full rush of Bicentennial activities is upon us, it is my feeling that the Congress should act as swiftly as possible to provide funds so that the project can begin.

I hope you will agree that the project offers us a unique opportunity to record the mood and spirit of America on our 200th anniversary at a relatively low cost. The permanent record of photographs will provide a valuable insight for future generations of Americans, and it will be easily accessible, through the television, film, and print media, as well as potential regional exhibitions, to all parts of the nation.

I will be most appreciative of your consideration of funding for a Bicentennial Photographic Project, and I will be pleased to discuss it with you and provide further information about it if you should so desire in the days ahead.

Sincerely.

Howard H. Baker, Jr.

HHBjr:gh  
Enclosure

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 27, 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR JIM CONNOR

FROM: RON NESSEN *R HN*

Frankly I don't know what to do with this. It is something that David Kennerly has been privately urging the President to participate in. I have had no role whatever. Mr. Gorkin tells me that the idea will require a \$ 2 million federal appropriation which I am almost sure the President will not endorse.

So if you think the President should see this, use your own judgement. Otherwise will you please send the appropriate reply to Mr. Gorkin?

Thank you.